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Date of Signature and Deposit: Oct. 19, 2006

Julie Zavoral
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Steven M. Akkala, et al.
App. No.: 10/613,291
Art Unit: 3635
Examiner: Chi Q. Nguyen
Filed: July 2, 2003
Attorney Docket: 690296.00013 (Formerly 009801-0004)
Confirmation No.: 6705
Title: ACCESS HATCH COVER ASSEMBLY WITH LIFT-ASSIST
ASSEMBLY AND METHOD THEREFOR

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 19, 2006. Please reconsider this application in view of the Remarks presented herein.

Listing of Claims are on pp. 2-6.

Remarks in support of patentability begin on page 7 of this communication.